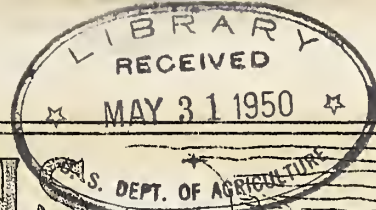


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Vol. 5, No. 5

May - 1940

NEBRASKANS TO BE INTRODUCED TO SHELTERBELTS

- By E. Garth Champagne, Nebraska

Northeast Nebraska is planning a "Big Doin's on June 16" to call the attention of the State and Nation to the tree-planting accomplishments in the area. The folks are proud of their tree-planting accomplishments of the past few years and they are anxious to prove to the rest of the world that trees will grow even in drouth years provided they are properly planted and taken care of.

Representatives from 21 towns in the Neligh Shelterbelt District have organized a committee to sponsor a Nebraska Forestry Field Day and Picnic. The College of Agriculture, State Extension Service, Omaha World-Herald, Rotary International, Wildlife Federation, American Legion, Nebraska Federation of Women's Clubs, Izaak Walton League, and Forest Service are all cooperating with the committee in developing plans and publicity for the Field Day.

A crowd of 10,000 to 25,000 people is expected to visit the Neligh Shelterbelt District, which has the greatest number of shelterbelt plantings of any District in the entire Project. Special trains from Omaha and Sioux City are being considered. Well-marked routes for unconducted tours will take the visitors to see old timber claims, private tree plantings, Clarke-McNary plantings, shelterbelts, and places of historic, recreational, and scenic interest. The picturesque Elkhorn River Valley and the scenic Niobrara and Missouri River valleys all lie within the Neligh District and they will be of great interest to the visitors.

A speaker of national prominence is to be secured to make a short talk near one of the shelterbelt plantings. As this goes to the typewriter we are awaiting a reply to an invitation extended to Sterling Morton, grandson of J. Sterling Morton, founder of Arbor Day.

Everyone in Northeast Nebraska is asking "Aunt Emaline out at Oshkosh" or "Uncle Oswald down at Nebraska City" to "come up and see the trees on June 16." Since there are too many "Aunt Emalines" and "Uncle Oswalds" in the Forest Service to permit writing individual letters of invitation, we are taking this method of asking you to spend the day with us. We'll be looking for you.

(Note: This may be a little late for your June "26a" but write it in anyway.)

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR DRIVERS IS SUGGESTED

Why not a training school in driving and laws for drivers of Project trucks and cars?

We have training schools for planting and demonstrations for cultivation, and certain methods are taught and used in each. Every time a man drives a truck, whether he is hauling a load of men or trees, his responsibilities become greater. Careful and safe driving increase the chance that he will redeem those responsibilities.

Accidents have occurred that might have been prevented with a little caution and care on the part of the driver and his knowledge of what to do and when to do it. Responsibilities on the road overshadow rights. Knowing what the other driver is going to do is practically impossible, and aggressiveness must give way to caution and courtesy. "A courteous driver is a safe driver."

Some equipment that is loaned or rented to the Project is old and not as mechanically perfect as it should be. This type of equipment must be driven in a different manner from a new model. The external appearance is no guarantee of the internal mechanical efficiency.

"Lady Luck" may be riding with a lot of drivers, but she may take a notion to walk some day and the chance that has been taken before with success may be a failure this time. In our own estimation we may be the world's best driver, but maybe it is just that we've been lucky. Refreshing our memories in the fundamentals of good driving and a knowledge of road regulations and laws would be of benefit to every driver.

A one- or two-day driving school conducted by competent men would be worth while in every District.

- R. G. Cameron, Kans.

CONTACT!!!

While they were examining a fine job of cultivation on a 1940 shelterbelt in a new planting area in Knox County, Texas, State Director Walt Webb and Junior Biologist Wells had an opportunity to find out how effective County Agent Rice, who accompanied them, was going to be in keeping free of weeds some 12 miles of belts operated by 17 cooperators. The plantings, in an experimental root-rot area, are more than 50 miles from the nearest Subdistrict Office.

The trio was about to pull away from the belt they had just examined when the cooperator arrived. Rice hopped out of the car and said:

"Come over here; I want to show you something."

Rice led the cooperator to a place where someone had made one turn through some Russian Olive trees without hurting any of them. Shaking his finger at the cooperator, the County Agent declared:

"See that! Either you or the hired man used that row as a turn row. You keep out of that isolation strip or I'll have 10 pounds of cotton taken off your allotment; leave a good isolation strip and we will count it as retired acres."

Webb looked at Wells, pleasantly astonished, and then and there decided that all the cultivation contact work would be handled by the County Agent. They then did some wishful thinking. If there were 32 more County Agents as interested and forceful as County Agent Rice - Yeah, a good example for the others and a goal to shoot at.

- Texas

(Editor's Note: We regret that the author of this article didn't see fit to sign his name. It is a good article, and deserves a better fate than anonymity.)

HOW MUCH SNOW WILL TREES HOLD?

Clyde Reeves, one of the most enthusiastic cooperators in the New Rockford Subdistrict, asked himself that question two years ago, and as a result he has one mile of shelterbelt planted on his farm in 1939 and an application for one-half mile for 1940.

Clyde tells of standing in the doorway of his house one winter day and of noticing the snow drifting in a peculiar pattern on his fields to the southeast. He said, "I watched a V-shaped piece drift on for some time, but could not figure out why the snow did not drift on either side of it. I walked out into the field for a quarter of a mile and finally it dawned on me that my two barns were diverting the wind to cause the snow to drift as it did. I then asked myself, 'If two barns can hold this much snow, how much snow will trees hold?'"

Clyde told me this story one day when I was on his farm and I asked him to show me where drifting occurred and where it did not. I'll attempt to describe the set-up.

The field in question, measuring a half-mile long (east to west) and a quarter-mile wide (north to south) is situated east of the road. West of the road, even with the north boundary of the field and just north of the farmhouse, are two rows of trees 20 feet high. Spaced 250 feet apart, also west of the road, are the two barns each 60 feet high and 130 feet long and located so that the whole space from the north end of the north barn to the south end of the south barn (510 feet) is opposite the center of the field. Just west of the barns and extending north from the south barn to the trees is a ridge 25 feet high. The prevailing wind comes from the northwest.

For a distance of 660 feet south along the west boundary of the field, its axis slightly south of east from the base, and extending out more than a quarter of a mile, is an elliptical area where drifting did not occur. The second area where drifting did not occur extends south 330 feet from the base line of the first pattern and extends out nearly a quarter of a mile. Between the two areas was a long narrow V-shaped area where drifting occurred, as it did on all the rest of the field.

Clyde's explanation is entirely feasible, but apparently other physical conditions in the farmyard had influenced the pattern.

- Charles B. Waldron, N.Dak.

- o - o - o -

Confucius say: Tree in shelterbelt worth half dozen in woodpile.

- E. Garth Champagne, Nebr.

HELPING HAND OF THE EXTENSION SERVICE

For more than a year, we have had a cooperative agreement with the Kansas Extension Service whereby newspaper articles were furnished in single copy to the Extension Editor and he made such numbers as were necessary to supply the release to the weekly newspapers in the State. At the same time, we often sent the Extension Editor a radio release which he in turn duplicated and mailed to about 20 radio stations. Once each month we receive the clippings from Extension which they have collected from papers they receive. This helps us to know some of the uses made of the newspaper material thus prepared and handled.

For sometime there has been a distinct need to get local stories into the papers within the Subdistrict. Lacking in office help, we found it difficult to get adequate coverage in the county papers. It appeared that we might work out an arrangement on a county level similar to the one now in operation on a State level. The proposal was presented to the Extension Service and they were glad to adopt the plan. Hereafter about three times each month the Subdistrict Officer will prepare a news article for his jurisdiction in single copy and send it to the County Agent and the Agent will make up such numbers of copies as is needed to supply the release to all of the papers within the given county.

It has also been difficult to keep up a uniform flow of news ideas among all of the Subdistricts. It has been suggested that at the time of the monthly District meeting a period of time be devoted to a discussion of subjects most appropriate to the welfare of the field program and that three subjects be worked out at the monthly meeting. It appears that in this way there can be an exchange of ideas once each month and the first sentence or paragraph of the news story can oftentimes be developed at the District meeting. These arrangements should help get the local news into good use.

The arrangement with the Extension Service will not be our only approach to the Press. The Forest Service will need to continue to keep a personal acquaintance with each editor. In a good many papers each year there will be feature articles requested. Also, efforts will be continued to get the editors to make trips into the country to see for themselves some of the work and results. Following such trips editors often write their own news stories.

We have high hopes for progress under these arrangements.

- T. Russell Reitz, Kans.

"DUST BOWL" THREAT AFTER WINDBREAKS REMOVED

That members of the federally sponsored farm colony in Matanuska Valley, Alaska, must replace the windbreaks which they removed, is the warning of W. A. Rockie, regional soil conservation research director. Rockie declared the valley might become another "dust bowl" unless farmers acted immediately to preserve the rich but shallow soil.

"The early settlers of Matanuska Valley - farmers from submarginal Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin farms - erred in removing valuable windbreaks and these must be replaced to prevent the soil from blowing away," Rockie said.

- H. J. Swan, R.O.

ATTACKING THE I&E BOGEYMAN

"I know we are all convinced in view of the size of our job it is absolutely essential that we utilize every possible expedient if we are to get it done, and that a well-planned, systematic approach will go a long way toward eliminating lost motion, thus producing the greatest accomplishment for the effort expended."

Thus State Director John Nelson concludes a letter to his District Officers, in which he emphasizes the need of building up key lists for all operating units.

Building such lists, Nelson points out, will serve the dual purpose of making readily available lists of influential persons upon whom the organization may call as the occasion arises, and widening the acquaintance of Forest Service Officers because they will have to contact all influential persons in their territories in order to be able to classify them. After listing some of the classes of individuals who can help the Project carry on its work, Nelson ventures the opinion that "many of us will be shocked to find that we do not even know the names of many of those persons and that actually our key contacts represent a pretty skimpy list."

"We know that the wider and more intimate our acquaintance with people, the more we can accomplish in getting every phase of the job done for the effort expended. I recently heard a squad foreman state that the reason he was able to get a good job of cultivating done in a comparatively new area in which he is working was because he had become well acquainted with his cooperators and other people who had influence in the area, and thus had all of them working with him and emphasizing the need for good cultivation."

Nelson touches on the propensity of many to concentrate on operational phases of the Project to the detriment of contacts, but adds: "The acceptance of the program and consequently the mileage we can plant, the cultivation we can obtain, etc., depend upon our contacts and the impressions made upon the public -- in other words, our I&E program."

"I believe that if we prepare our lists . . . and begin making our contacts on a planned basis, we will find our acquaintanceship broadening, our zone of influence increasing, and more support and assistance available in the prosecution of our program."

CAN THE FARMERS DO THEIR OWN CONTACT WORK?

Time and again on this Project we have come to situations where we face insurmountable difficulties and have to find an entirely new approach. Usually we have been resourceful enough to overcome those obstacles; for example, nursery leases, farmer cultivation, grape hoes to do away with hand cultivation, donated trucks to solve the problem of transportation units, only to name a few.

The job looming up like a mountain on these Plains right now is our contact work. This has been pyramiding from year to year because we have an ever-increasing number of farmer cooperators with which to deal and the heaviest contact job is for the cultivation work. Unlike contacts for

negotiating a new planting which needs to be done only once as a rule, cultivation requires a follow-up month after month which means five or six contacts a cultivation season. That is a big load with about 20,000 farms. Furthermore, these contacts are highly important to the future success of the work so that we cannot use laborers but must depend usually upon our Subdistrict men and others of our limited permanent personnel.

We can hardly hope to increase this personnel to keep up with this growing list of cooperators and we cannot, at least, as yet reduce these contacts without the work suffering. So we are hunting for a way around this obstacle and with so many similar problems in the past solved by turning the job over to the farmer, how about getting the farmer to do his own contacting? This, of course, sounds like a paradox but what I mean is, couldn't we take Russell Reitz' Township Tree Committee plan, used so successfully for the negotiations work, and apply it to this cultivation contact work? There may be need for adjustments to fit each locality but if we could get farmer leaders, or any reliable farmer interested in his community and our program, to help "ride herd" on the cultivation of shelter-belts in his immediate vicinity it would reduce our contact load a great deal and possibly help improve the quality of the work.

The farmers have come to our rescue time and again on matters of this sort and I believe that if we put our proposition before them and recruited the help of the County Agent and others, stressing the importance of this follow-up work and our inability to meet it properly, that they would help us find a way out. There will no doubt be many cases that can not be handled in this way. On the other hand, if we could reduce the contact work required of our men 25% this year or next we could see our way clear. We, of course, need to continue with other methods of approach such as through meetings, news items, County Agent releases, etc. to build up the general educational program on cultivation. In this connection and possibly in line with the suggestion above, couldn't we use the country minister and priest as a community leader to preach the gospel of cultivation?

- D. S. Olson, R.O.

KANSAS HAS STATE WPA TREE-PLANTING PROJECT

A State WPA Project, now in operation under sponsorship of the Kansas Unit, is believed to be the only one of its kind in any of the six PSFP States. The project placed in operation March 12, provides a Federal allotment of \$11,326 "wages" and \$739 "other." Sponsors' contributions in the form of subsoiling, ground preparation, loan of trucks, fence materials and construction, cultivation, planting stock, etc., amount to an estimated total of \$7,031. "Other" money purchases from Federal funds consist of nursery stock, gasoline, and oil. The status of sponsors' contributions and expenditures of Federal funds is reflected by a system of periodic reports as is true of other State projects. Payrolling is done by the WPA Finance Division.

Technical supervision is furnished by Melvin E. Crawford, Shelter-belt Assistant, at Cheney, Kansas. The project is scheduled for completion June 30. It has been of value to us as a supplementary project and is looked on with favor by the WPA Office at Topeka.

-- John D. Hall, Kans.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN TREES EXCELLENT NEW MANUAL

"Rocky Mountain Trees" is the title of a new book just issued by the Iowa State College Press at Ames, Iowa. It was prepared by Richard J. Preston, Jr., Associate Professor of Forestry at Colorado State College.

As stated in the preface, the purpose of the book is to provide a manual, making available to the people the technical knowledge necessary for the identification and understanding of the trees of the Rocky Mountain areas.

The presentation is brief, yet very complete, including a discussion of the Rocky Mountain Region, tree characters, a check list of the trees found within each state by both scientific and common names, a key to the genera, a glossary, a selected bibliography and an index.

By far the majority of the 285 pages of text are given over to plates and descriptions of the trees. The book is now on sale at bookstores and by the publisher, price \$2.

Many of the species used by the Prairie States Forestry Project are included in the book, their range extending not only through the Rocky Mountain Region but also onto the Plains. The Regional Office library has a copy of the book which it is felt will prove of considerable value to the Project's personnel.

- H. J. Swan, R.O.

DETAIL TO STATE OFFICE PAYS IN TRAINING DIVIDENDS

Why is it that we "Fiscal Hounds" are not heard from more often? Can it be that there are few Scribes in our group? Certainly not! Can it be that our work offers nothing of interest to write about? No, it cannot be that. Then do you suppose our articles are "censored" and finally filed in the "wastebasket" because they do not catch the Public Eye? As much as we would like to use such an excuse, I'm afraid it won't work in this publication. Could it be the scarcity of the "Written Word" issuing from the pens of us office men? Alas! Herein we have been tried by a multitude of articles (some good and some not so good) prepared by our rivals, the "TM" boys, and have been found wanting.

Since this is my first attempt to secure a "Byline" in PLAINS FORESTER, of course I shall be surprised if the quality of this article warrants publication, however, the following is my mite:

I have recently been privileged to spend a week in our State Office at Grand Island and am here to state that during that week I received not less than 10 man-months' worth of training and experience. A grateful hand of appreciation is extended to Messrs. Smith, Cramer, and Burke for their time and consideration during my internment.

Of course there was the usual bowling after office hours and although I managed to compile my highest score in this art, I was unable to surpass that of my worthy opponents (I just couldn't find a ball suited to my liking perhaps).

All in all the stay was very enjoyable, especially since their fair city was my old abode some few years ago.

- W. Cullen, Nebr.

CONIFER ESTABLISHMENT QUESTION DISCUSSED

I can find no material conflict between A. H. Briggs' response in the March issue of PLAINS FORESTER to my article concerning conifer survival in the January issue. In the last paragraph, Briggs said: "The practice of planting in lister furrows is excellent in theory but likely to fail in practice," whereas I said that "trees should be planted in lister furrows to protect them from hot winds, sandblasting, etc..... when the cooperators understand cultivation after furrow planting and has proper equipment."

Our only three shelterbelts which were planted in lister furrows on more difficult (sandier) sites came through with excellent survivals because they had the furrow protection and because they were properly cultivated afterwards. This indicates to me that this method can be profitably expanded within the limitations of cultivation equipment and knowledge.

We have found that an excellent job can be done with a two-runner single-row sled, with discs set to throw the ridges away from the conifers, which follows the furrow. This should be used after the windy season or when the trees in the furrow need cultivating. The longer the conifers remain in the furrow, the more protection they will get. After this first "throw away" the ordinary cultivators can be used to good advantage.

We have already done replanting on some 1940 conifer rows which were severely whipped and sandblasted during the previous month. Furrow planting would have made this unnecessary, whereas delaying conifer planting in anticipation of securing additional protection from a one-year-old planting would not.

Since we are purchasing grape hoes to aid in cultivation in order to reduce hand hoeing, why not invest in a few sleds to increase cedar and pine survival, and reduce replanting of costly conifers? We would like to see this done at least on an experimental basis.

- Karl Ziegler, Kans.

RABBIT CONTROL CAMPAIGN GAINS RECRUITS

Because of the exceptionally dry fall, Nebraska suffered severe rabbit damage during the latter part of October. This was particularly true in the Kearney area. Not only were the trees eaten up, but alfalfa, clover and the little wheat that had sprouted were consumed.

Farmers in the two counties most seriously affected sought our aid in organizing county-wide campaigns to secure control. We gladly helped, and Phelps and Kearney Counties embarked on successful control projects about December 14. Guns and rabbit netting are used. Seventeen hunts, covering 191,320 acres, have been held, with the result that 13,325 rabbits and 27 coyotes have been killed. A number of hunts have been held in other counties covering 3,840 acres and accounting for 200 rabbits.

A number of counties in our planting area have asked us to prepare poison bait for county-wide distribution, they to furnish the materials and distribute the bait to those who wish it. We have always had numerous requests for poison from non-shelterbelt owners which we have no means of supplying. If this service is made available, it will make our control

problems much simpler and cut the cost of control considerably. It will also greatly enlarge the area in which the rabbits will be under control prior to planting.

- Carroll F. Orendurff, Nebr.

(Comment: Yes, I believe Orendurff's approach to the rodent control problem would be the most effective in protecting the trees. However, should the Forest Service assume leadership in such widespread rodent control work? We have from the very start recognized that effective control measures needed to go beyond the confines of a shelterbelt; at least over the whole farm. Then as the concentration of shelterbelts developed, rodent control would be solidified in a large block. Even so, it has been difficult to reconcile our position in such widespread protection for the five percent of land occupied by trees - not so much from the standpoint of costs or benefits to the trees but because that protection was equally valuable to the farmer in protecting his crops on the other 95 percent of the farm. The Forest Service through this Project has done a lot to popularize and educate the farmers on this control work, but we are reaching the point where the "tail is wagging the dog." Now as the farmers are seeking our help in these rodent control measures on farms where there are no trees; that is, for purely agricultural crops, should the Forest Service take the leadership? I think not, for even though it would indirectly benefit our trees, we would be getting far away from our authorized functions.

We have been called upon to do this very thing in some localities but it has been considered advisable to extend our help with poison bait mixing plants and other aid through the Biological Survey and Extension Service, and in the case of rabbit drives outside our planting territory, through sponsored sportsmen clubs and the like. - D.S.Olson, R.O.)

ARBOR DAY SERMON WRITTEN BY PFAENDER

To stimulate Arbor Day observance in Oklahoma, Max Pfaender wrote a sermon which, it is our understanding, was delivered by the pastors in several of the churches in the western half of the State.

Max states the case for trees very well. He first tells how God created trees for man's comfort and protection and nourishment, trees "which will protect his fields, gardens, domestic animals and buildings, which will provide food and shelter for birds, game and honey bees, trees which will forever keep clear our bubbling brooks, our sparkling lakes, and which will protect the beautiful verdant face of Mother Earth."

His description of the miraculous capacities of seeds to grow into huge trees and of the community lives of trees leaves no doubt as to their wonders. In trees, too, he finds a lesson in cooperation everyone would do well to study. He says: "Trees provide shade, shelter, food and living quarters to birds, insects and various other forms of life. Birds again repay their benefactors by devouring injurious types of insects, such as borers, leaf-eating worms and bugs. Trees supply food to insects and especially to bees, who in turn provide the necessary polenization of the flowers so necessary for the perpetuation of the species."

To emphasize further the importance of trees to man, Max traces man through life and shows how much of the things he uses is made of wood - "the most valuable raw material we have."

All in all, Max has produced a forceful sermon, bound to impress upon listeners the importance of trees to man.

- H. J. Swan, R.O.

THE YOUNGSTERS TELL WHY TREES SHOULD BE PLANTED

One of the preparatory features for this year's Arbor Day observance in Kansas was an essay contest conducted by the Federation of Women's Clubs for school children. State Director Reitz has sent us a copy of one of the prize-winning compositions, by a ten-year-old fourth-grader in School District No. 2 - Everett Gottschalk. Everett is one of a family of seven or eight children, and his dependability and general intelligence, it is reported, impressed the whole crowd at the Women's Club program on Arbor Day when he read his essay. Everett's essay, "Why Plant Trees in Kansas," follows:

There are many reasons why we should plant trees in Kansas. Trees not only help us in many ways such as providing shade, clothing, shelter and food, but they also add to the beauty of the landscape.

Probably two of the greatest needs for planting trees in Kansas are for shelter and windbreak. As we know we have hot winds in summer and cold winds in winter. I think if we had more trees in certain places, much of this wind could be stopped. Trees planted on the south side of a garden help to protect the plants from the hot south winds. We would have more birds in Kansas if they had trees in which to shelter and build their nests.

Trees are beautiful plants. What is more beautiful in spring than an orchard in full bloom, or trees covered with green leaves? In the fall when the leaves are turning all colors they are also very beautiful. How much more beautiful a home looks surrounded by trees.

Fruit trees do not grow well in all parts of Kansas and do not bear fruit, but they can be used for shade and shelter. We have some nut trees in Kansas that grow large and also produce nuts. The Black Walnut is a variety that does well.

Trees give us a lot of shade. Animals, plants and man enjoy the shade of a tree, and it seems cooler to be under a tree on a hot day.

The kinds of trees that grow best in Kansas are: Chinese elm, Poplar, Ash, Walnut, Oak, and the Cottonwood. Certain trees grow best in certain places and we should find out what tree is best adapted to our community and plant that variety.

If every child would plant a few trees each year and care for them, we would soon have many more trees in Kansas and a more beautiful state in which to live.

FROM THE EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

A recent addition to the Regional Office library is Montana State College Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin No. 275, dealing with the maintenance of beef cows for calf production. Far from the question of shelterbelts as the subject of this bulletin seems, it is nevertheless very close.

Two of the feeding tests compare the results with cattle wintered in the shelter of natural brush in a creek bottom with another lot wintered in a shed provided with an open door to the south and a corral. Both lots of cattle were fed practically identical rations. One of the winters was very mild, the other severe.

In the test during the mild winter the cattle with natural brush protection gained in weight 34.9 pounds more per animal than did those with shed protection. In the severe winter, the cows with brush protection lost in weight 10.6 pounds per animal less than did those with shed protection.

The authors, therefore, with their necks protected, concluded: "These tests indicate that where natural brush shelter is available such protection is at least equal to expensive shed equipment and certainly much less costly."

** - **

State Director Ford has sent us a copy of the April program of the Regale Theater at Salem, South Dakota. The back cover of the program, reserved for the postage and address, also carries "U. S. Forest Information" in which Subdistrict Officer Howard Martley tells of the plans for shelterbelt work and urges cooperators to get the planting sites ready at the earliest time possible.

It is the practice of the theater manager to send programs telling of the coming month's attractions to all residents of his trade territory as an advertising measure. The program mentioned was sent out in March so that the information Martley conveyed in his message was very timely.

This is just one more case of a Subdistrict Officer sensing an opportunity and making the most of it. Martley is to be congratulated for a splendid idea that "clicked."

** - **

Two items in the May 10 issue of "Random Forestry Notes for Extension Foresters," Extension Service publication at Washington, contain tips which may interest this Project. The first, titled "A \$2000 Windbreak" says:

A testimonial submitted by Extension Forester Edmondson of Wyoming indicates the value one farmer places on his shelterbelts. A farmer near Gillette states that he would not take \$2,000 for his 8-year-old windbreak. He appreciates the protection to buildings, livestock, crops, and gardens; the reduction of fuel cost; and the shade obtained from this 8-year-old planting.

The second article is "N.Y.A. Drafts Windbreak Plans."

James E. Davis, extension forester for Illinois, has found it convenient to use college N.Y.A. help in preparing ground plans for demonstration windbreak or shelterbelt plantings. Mr. Davis has arranged with the college authorities to have an N.Y.A. draftsman designated for this phase of the work. The preliminary sketches of outlines for these plans are prepared by the extension forester, his assistants, the county agents, or even the farmers themselves.

For example, on a rough outline of the area sketched, distances having been measured or accurately paced, buildings are located, and the space for the windbreak or shelterbelt is indicated. Mr. Davis then checks the outline adding all the necessary data as to number of rows, species, spacing, etc., and turns the material over to the N.Y.A. draftsman. The final drawings, blueprinted in triplicate, are about 12 by 14 inches and are very neat and attractively done. The psychological effect on the cooperator is very good.

** - **

Ernest Wright, our forest pathologist, drew a deep breath the other day. Not that what he had just read makes his lot any easier, but - well, you know how much better you feel about your own troubles when you find out that the other fellow has his own brow-furrowing difficulties.

Here is what Ernie read in the Portland Oregonian: "Astoria, May 3. - Almost as devastating as a forest fire, hundreds of mountain-beaver have destroyed approximately 80 percent of the 400,000 young trees planted in the Oregon forestry department 'model nursery' near Hamlet in a 1,000-acre plot donated by Clatsop County."

The trees, the story continued, were planted in 1936, and the beavers, who were strangers to the area until after the planting was done, launched their blitzkrieg. They did not spare even trees 10 inches in diameter, ignored all poison bait, and made a clean sweep of the saplings.

Says Wright: "It certainly is some consolation that we don't have beavers to contend with. Would hate to see them mowing down our shelterbelts like loggers. Maybe rabbits aren't so bad, after all."

** - **

According to an item in the Wichita Falls (Texas) Times, a theater there claims that there is a relationship between the original Pinocchio and the hackberry trees growing in Texas. Accordingly the management had on display a young specimen allegedly taken from the famous wooden boy's tree.

What bothers State Director Webb is that the paper suggests that maybe Walt can match up the geneology of Pinocchio and the more recent famous splinter, Charlie McCarthy.

** - **

Margaret March-Mount, who has marched to our aid several times in the past to capture the interest of women's clubs in Nebraska and Kansas and direct their enthusiasm along "right channels" went to bat recently for us over a Missouri radio station, when she attended a meeting of Missouri women. She was asked about the shelterbelt program in a radio interview and she told the listeners plenty.

** - **

State Director Webb of Texas "went on the road" last year and by the time he returned to Wichita Falls a lot of pedagogues from a goodly share of Texas and many advance students at Texas educational institutions had been explicitly informed about shelterbelts. Webb's trip was a decided success, and this year he received an invitation for return engagements to address Conservation Course students. June 18 will find him on the road again on a trip not to end until after his lecture at Canyon July 3.

The State Director is scheduled to talk to gatherings at 11 schools in eight cities. On June 18 he will talk at three institutions in Abilene: McMurry College, Hardin-Simmons University and Abilene Christian University. June 19 will find him speaking at Howard Payne College and Daniel Baker College at Brownwood. He will speak at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, on June 14, and on the following day at Trinity University at Waxahachie. Baylor University at Waco and Mary Hardin-Baylor College at Belton will hear Mr. Webb on June 26, while on June 28 he will speak at Texas A. & M. College at College Station. His last talk will be at West Texas State Teachers College at Canyon July 3.

Two more talks are scheduled, July 5, at North Texas State Teachers College at Denton and at East Texas State Teachers College at Commerce. These talks will be made by Hyman Goldberg.

The earliest hour a lecture is scheduled is 7 o'clock in the morning, but it is the only one set for near-dawn. Two of them will be given after 5 o'clock in the afternoon, but for the most part the State Director's appearances are set for mid-morning or mid-afternoon.

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CUPID STRIKES A KNOCKOUT BLOW IN OKLAHOMA

On Sunday, May 5, John K. Ferguson, Clerk-Stenographer in our Elk City District, was married to Joan Jarrell of Elk City, Oklahoma. The marriage vows were taken in Oklahoma City.

Mr. Ferguson was the last single boy on the Oklahoma Unit. We all join in wishing John and Joan much happiness.

- A. N. Butler, Okla.

SON BORN TO CLARKS

Mr. and Mrs. Reese Clark are the parents of a son, Robert Reese Clark, born May 9 at the Lincoln (Nebraska) General Hospital. Mrs. Clark -- Lucille, to most of us -- is clerk in the Regional Office Division of Timber Management. Congratulations, Reese and Lucille!

INTERESTING STORIES IN EARLY PLANTERS' EXPERIENCES

I was reared on a central Kansas farm which was completely surrounded by Osageorange hedges, as were most of the farms in our community. I realized the value of the hedges to our farm and our living, but we seldom, if ever, gave any thought to how they got there or to the many hours of determined labor expended by our grandfathers in this manner of making the Great Plains a better place in which to live.

Since observing the difficulty we in the Prairie States Forestry Project have in establishing Osageorange rows in shelterbelts, however, the success of the early settlers in getting nearly perfect stands in their rows is mystifying to me. Accordingly, with my work of the past year centering in an area where hedge rows are common, I have tried to learn as much as possible about the early plantings. I have heard several interesting reports, and found that some plantings have historical significance to their owners.

One of the new cooperators in Lincoln County, an elderly woman whose parents had homesteaded her farm where we will plant this year, had just signed the agreement when she expressed happiness over the opportunity to have a shelterbelt on her place. She said the farm had always been her home and she was anxious that it should be a good home for her only son. She expressed regret that the severe drought, grasshopper infestations and dust storms had killed her hedge rows. I inquired about early tree planting in the community and asked if she remembered when her trees were planted. "Oh my, yes: how well I remember," she replied. "My father planted them in the spring of 1873. They were dear to me because that was the same year he was burned to death while helping to fight a great prairie fire. They are dead now and we will have to pull them out."

Undoubtedly many of our shelterbelts will also have historical significance to their owners, and it will be a real pleasure for some of our men to return 50 years hence and view the plantings which were made through their efforts back when they worked for the PSFP. Will 66 years more of tree planting on the Great Plains result in advancements over present shelterbelts similar to those the shelterbelts show over the early Osageorange rows and timber claims? We hope so.

- C. Lyman Calahan, Ex-Kansas

O.G.R. - FOREST SERVICE BROADCAST

The Office of Government Reports is again cooperating with the Forest Service in putting on radio broadcasts dealing with various forestry activities in the country. The radio script deals with activities on the National Forests, the seasonal tie-in being in connection with recreation.

So far the O.G.R. State Representatives in Nebraska and Oklahoma have signified their willingness to cooperate and have arranged for the broadcasting time. Probably some of the other States will do likewise. The present script is dated for the week of June 2.

BIOLOGICAL AIDE TRANSFERRED

Frank Sampson, Senior Biological Aide, who has been stationed at Hutchinson since 1937, was transferred to Manhattan on May 1. Mr. and Mrs. Sampson and son Dickey are residing at 1031 Fremont.

- J. D. Hall, Kans.